SUBJECTS.

sending their children to English schools, and when the schools were far away, nothing could be expected of them. He urged the necessity for introducing compulsory education among them and he also pointed out that the introduction of English up to Form I in the Lower Grade Elementary Schools, in places where the number of Mahomedans was large, would prove to be of great help.

Dewan's reply.—The Government have been encouraging the education of the Mahomedans as far as they could.

64. Opening of Elementary Schools at all convenient centres for the free education of the children of the Roman Catholic Christians living along the sea-coast.

Mr. L. H. Netto (Member, Nominated) referred to the backward condition of the Roman Catholic Christians living on the sea-coast as regards their intellectual and moral advancements and said that, while most of the other classes of His Highness' subjects had been benefited by the Government's generosity in the matter of education, the coast Christians alone were not in a position to profit in this direction, owing to their inability to open and maintain schools. The Member therefore prayed that the Government might take upon itself the duty of opening the necessary Elementary Schools for the education of this poor and backward community.

Dewan:—I quite sympathise with you. You are indeed backward. I would advise you to see the Director later on with a memorial from your community and explain to him your difficulties and express your wants.

65. Educational needs of the Vaikom taluk.

Mr. G. Venkitarama Iyer (Member, T. I. C., Vaikom) represented that, before the advent of the Educational Code, there were 150 schools, both aided and unaided, in the taluk, but now there were only 15 schools in all. Out of 25,000 children, only less than 6,000 were now under instruction for want of a sufficient number of schools. The Member then described the unsatisfactory condition of the schools at Kallara and Perumpallam, opened by the Government, after the passing of the Code. The Kallara school intended for only 120 boys, practically accommodated more than double that number. The same was the case at Perumpallam. He also pointed out the deplorable state of the Higher Grade Elementary School, situated in the heart of the town at Vaikom, which accommodated 575 boys, while it could accommodate only 250 children at the most, according to the Code. As matters stood at present, the depressed classes at Vaikom were completely shut out from education, owing to the want of admission in the school, which was located near the temple. Want of accommodation caused a portion of the higher classes to remain without instruction. He suggested that the school might be removed from the present site and provided with sufficient accommodation.

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